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General Assembly
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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 4 March 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Following a decision by the Israeli government to "intensify military strikes" against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority, the Israeli occupying forces today committed more war crimes and State terrorism, killing 16 Palestinians. In Al-Amari refugee camp near Ramallah, Israeli tanks fired several shells at the car of Mr. Hussein Abu Kweik, killing his wife and his three children. Two other children who were in an adjacent car were also killed. In Jenin, Israeli tanks shelled an ambulance, killing Dr. Khalil Sulieman. Five more Palestinians were killed when Israeli occupying forces raided Jenin refugee camp using tanks and helicopter gunships. Israeli occupying forces also killed three Palestinians in Rafah, one in Qalqilya and one in the Balata refugee camp.

The above-mentioned war crimes and State terrorism come after the Israeli occupying forces invaded the Balata and Jenin refugee camps over the last few days. During that invasion, Israeli occupying forces killed more than 30 Palestinians, including children. In addition, they destroyed a large number of Palestinian homes and caused extensive damage to water and electricity lines as well as other property belonging to the inhabitants.

Israel, the occupying Power, claims that such war crimes, State terrorism and other oppressive measures are taken in reprisal while in fact they represent an established policy of the government as part of the Israeli bloody military campaign being waged against the Palestinian people since 28 September 2000. Only today, the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Ariel Sharon, said in an interview that the Palestinians should "suffer many losses" and "be hit very hard, because if they don't feel they have been defeated, it will be impossible to return to the negotiating table".

The international community must stop Israeli war crimes and State terrorism and reverse all illegal actions and measures taken by Israel against the Palestinian people. The Security Council bears the utmost responsibility in this regard as the body responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security, and we

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once more call on the Security Council to take the necessary action in follow-up to the Council's public meetings convened on 21, 26 and 27 February 2002.

In follow-up to our previous 101 letters to you regarding the crisis situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 28 February 2002 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149; A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166; A/ES-10/133-S/2001/1239; A/ES-10/134-S/2001/126; A/ES-10/136-S/2002/18; A/ES-10/137-S/2002/39; A/ES-10/138-S/2002/48; A/ES-10/139-S/2002/58; A/ES-10/140-S/2002/89; A/ES-10/141-S/2002/95; A/ES-10/142-S/2002/102; A/ES-10/143-S/2002/121; A/ES-10/144-S/2002/142; A/ES-10/145-S/2002/146; A/ES-10/146-S/2002/165; A/ES-10/147-S/2002/175; A/ES-10/148-S/2002/182; A/ES-10/149-S/2002/190; A/ES-10/150-S/2002/214 and A/ES-10/151-S/2002/223), I regret to inform you that the 16 Palestinians killed today, in addition to the scores of Palestinians killed over the past few days by the Israeli occupying forces raise the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September 2000 to 980. (The names of the martyrs, including the martyrs mentioned in our letter to you dated 28 February 2002, are contained in the annex to the present letter.) Moreover, the number of Palestinians injured, many seriously, by the Israeli occupying forces also continues to rise dramatically.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 4 March 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Tuesday, 26 February 2002, through Monday, 4 March 2002)

Tuesday, 26 February 2002

Mohammed Hayek

Thursday, 28 February 2002

1. Kayed Khalil Abu Mustafa
2. Mahdi Hasan Alnamor
3. Mohamed Kasem
4. Mahmoud Khalil Tantawi (18 years old)
5. Abed Hasan Al-Helo (17 years old)
6. Mohamed Mahmoud Al-Haj
7. Samih Fawzi Al-Ardah
8. Osama Mousa Jad-Allah
9. Abdallah Othman Sha'baan Sha'baan
10. Mohamed Mahmoud Rasheed Fayed
11. Khalil Mohamed Khalil Khabas
12. Mohamed Awad Al-Jindi
13. Baker Zeeb Al-Sarawi
14. Abdel Rahim Mustafa Seif

Friday, 1 March 2002

1. Khaled Nijm
2. Ibrahim Moussa Al Talaka (7 years old)
3. Yousserf Dawood Mohamed Aloosh
4. Mahmoud Azab
5. Iyad Alsayes (15 years old)
6. Yasser Alsayes
7. Hakam Abu Eisha (from sustained wounds)
9. Loai Amin Zabaya Turkman (17 years old)
10. Maria Eiz Eldin Abu Seriah (9 years old)

Saturday, 2 March 2002

1. Tayseer Kamal Mohamed Ga'ara (18 years old)
2. Mohamed Mufid Mustafa Salem
3. Inas Ibrahim Eissa Salah (10 years old) (from wounds sustained on 19 February 2002)
4. Khalil Salman Al Jamasi

* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 980.

Sunday, 3 March 2002

1. Zaki Amer Ashour
2. Hakam Abu Eisha (from wounds sustained on 28 February 2002)
3. Ayman Kasem Durghama
4. Khaled Shuaeb Suwileh
5. Islam Sadeq Shawahna
6. Abdallah Salem Abdelhady Thabit

Monday, 4 March 2002

1. Boushra Abu Kweik
2. Mohammed Abu Kweik (8 years old)
3. Azizah Abu Kweik (17 years old)
4. Bara' Abu Kweik (14 years old)
5. Shaima' Eiz El-Din Al-Basalah (4 years old)
6. Dr. Khalil Sulieman
7. Ahmed Al-Sofi
8. Saber Abu Libdeh
9. Ibrahim Barhoum
10. Asma'a Kamal Al-Razi
11. Samira Zubaidi
12. Amjad Badran
13. Nasser Abu Johar
14. Imad Abu Baker
15. Arafat Ibrahim Al-Masri (16 years old)
16. Ayman Hassan Abdel Rihim Ghanem (17 years old)
17. Mohammed Fakhry Al-Hashash (from wounds sustained on 1 March 2002)

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Letter dated 1 March 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a list of the cases of violations by Iraq of the terms of the ceasefire between the two countries from 13 November 2000 to 3 March 2001 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad H. **Fadaifard**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 1 March 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

A) CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS:

1) On Nov. 13, 2000 at 12:00 hours, an Iraqi blue painted patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 42500- 53500) coordinates of Abadan map.

2) On Jan. 12, 2001 at 22:30 hours, six 82mm mortar shells was fired from Chefteh base of Iraq which hit in the Nasrian River at (38S,PB, 67000- 28000) coordinates of Danan map, 4 KM to Imam Zadeh Ghetal base.

3) On Jan. 18, 2001 at 14:35 hours, an Iraqi white painted patrol boat carrying three persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP/TN, 66900- 14300) coordinates of Alishir map.

4) On Jan. 24, 2001 at 10:30 hours, three loaders and four power shovels were spotted at work at (39R, TP/TQ, 14000-90000) coordinates of Nim Estghah Navad map.

5) On Jan. 24, 2001 at 08:00 hours, two power shovels and two trucks were spotted at work at (39R, TP, 54000-20000) coordinates of Faw map.

6) On Jan. 25, 2001 at 16:10 hours, an Iraqi patrol boat carrying two persons in military uniforms was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 42000- 53000) coordinates of Abadan map.

7) On Jan. 26, 2001 from 20:40 to 21:40 hours, six mortar shells were fired from the Iraqi soil at (39S,QA, 29300- 82500) coordinates of Nahre Anbar map to the Iranian forces stationed in the territory of the I.R. of Iran.

8) On Jan. 17, 2001 at 14:20 hours, an Iraqi patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 47300- 47400) coordinates of Khosro Abad map.

9) On Jan. 17, 2001 at 16:40 hours, an Iraqi cream painted intelligence gathering patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 58500- 18400) coordinates of Faw map.

10) On Jan. 18, 2001 at 14:35 hours, an Iraqi white painted intelligence gathering patrol boat carrying three persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP/TN, 68900- 14500) coordinates of Alishir map.

11) On Jan. 28, 2001 at 15:30 hours, 17 power shovels and a gray Benz were spotted at work at (38R,QV, 56000-80100) coordinates of South Hurallhovaizeh and (38R, QV, 56000-80100) coordinates of the same map from South to North.

12) On Jan. 30, 2001 at 10:30 hours, five Iraqi shepherds along with their sheep invaded the territory of the I.R. of Iran at (39S,QA, 58000-69000) coordinates of Yibis map. Ignoring the stop order of the Iranian forces, one of them was shot and taken to the hospital.

13) On Feb. 2, 2001 at 12:15 hours, an Iraqi cream painted patrol boat carrying two persons in military uniforms was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 33500- 58000) coordinates of Khoramshahr map.

14) On Feb. 2, 2001 at 13:10 hours, an Iraqi blue painted patrol boat carrying 2 persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 40500- 56200) coordinates of Abadan map.

15) On February 2, 2001 at 17:50 hours, an Iraqi patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling at (39R,TP, 58500- 18400) coordinates of Faw map.

16) On Feb. 8, 2001 at 03:00 hours, a team of M.K.O. agents helped by the Iraqi forces tried to infiltrate at (39R, TP, 40500- 56200) coordinates of Abadan map. Clashed with the Iranian forces, one of them was killed and the second one fled with help of the Iraqi forces.

17) On Feb. 9, 2001 at 01:30 hours, a team of M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq tried to infiltrate the Iranian outposts at (38S, PB, 63000- 39000) coordinates of Kouhe Gach map. Clashed with the Iranian forces, they fired seven mortar shells at the Iranian forces and to the territory of the I.R. of Iran.

18) On Feb. 9, 2001 at 02:00 hours, twelve 120mm mortar shells were fired from inside Iraq at (38S, PB, 18500- 51700) coordinates of Khosravi map, which hit the urban installations.

19) On Feb. 8, 2001 at 21:30 hours, the Iranian forces at (38S,NC/ND, 45870-17225) coordinates of Khosravi map clashed with a team of M.K.O. agents who had invaded the I.R. of Iran. As a result, a number of M.K.O. agents were injured and two of Iranian forces achieved martyrdom.

20) On Feb. 11, 2001 at 08:30 hours, some agents from inside Iraq fired with a rifle at the territory of the I.R. of Iran at (53000- 83000) coordinates of Sizdah map, as result of which a conscript named Karami achieved martyrdom.

21) On Feb. 9, 2001 at 20:30 hours, some M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq fired five to six107mm missiles at the Iranian forces at (38R, PB, 55000- 34000) coordinates of Kouhe Gach map.

22) On Jan. 31, 2001 at 10:30 hours, some M.K.O. agents tried to infiltrate from Khtoon region at (38S, PB/PA, 67000- 22000) coordinates of Chai Gharah Tapeh map. Helped by the Iraqi forces and using three vehicles of Talil outpost, they fled back into the Iraqi territory.

23) On Feb. 13, 2001 at 23:15 hours, one mortar shell and at 23:15 hours of the same day two other mortar shells were fired from inside Iraq at (38S, PA/PB 86000- 06000 and 86000- 06000) coordinates of chai Garah Tapeh map.

24) On Feb. 12, 2001 at 03:30 hours, some M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq fired eight 107mm missiles at the Iranian forces stationed at Vasheghani region at (38S, PA/QA, 90000- 17000) coordinates of Gotapeh map. The attack incurred damages on the farms.

25) On Feb. 14, 2001 at 00:30 hours, a team of M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq fired a number of 82mm mortar shells at (38S, PA/PB, 84000- 04000) coordinates of Chai Garah Tapeh map and then fled.

26) On Feb. 15, 2001 at 14:00 hours, an Iraqi cream painted patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP/TN, 68900- 14200) coordinates of Nahr Alishir map.

27) On Feb. 15, 2001 at 08:30 hours, a loader and two trucks carrying 2 persons were spotted at work at (39R, TP, 52000-23000) coordinates of Khosro Abad map.

28) On Feb. 14, 2001 at 02:00 hours, a team of M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq fired six 60mm mortar shells at (38S, QA, 23000- 96000) coordinates of Nahr Anbar map.

29) On Feb. 17, 2001 01:35 hours, M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq fired twelve 07mm missiles and 120mm mortar shells at (38S, NC/ND, 53000- 15000) coordinates of Kharatha map. They also fired ninteen 82mm mortar shells at (38S, NC/ND 45000- 13000) coordinates of Ghasre Shirin map.

30) On Feb. 21, 2001 at 20:30 hours, 10 shots were fired at the Iranian forces at (39R, TP 51000-43000) coordinates of Khosro Abad map.

31) On Feb. 22, 2001 at 11:20 hours, an Iraqi cream painted patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 28400- 68500) coordinates of Khoramshahr map.

32) On Feb. 23, 2001 at 15:00 hours, an Iraqi cream painted intelligence gathering patrol boat carrying three persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP/TN, 69000- 14300) coordinates of Nahre Alishir map.

33) On Feb. 23, 2001, a team of M.K.O. agents helped by the Iraqi forces tried to infiltrate the territory of the I.R. of Iran at (38S, PB, 60000- 30000) coordinates of Kouhe Gach map. Confronted with the Iranian forces, they fled during that they fired three 107mm missiles to the Iranian forces, which damaged two bankers.

34) On Feb. 25, 2001 at 22:45 hours, three mortar shells were fired from the Iraqi soil at (38S,PA/QA, 88200- 06100) coordinates of Kouh Gotapeh map.

35) On Feb. 25, 2001 at 03:20 hours, a team of M.K.O. agents from inside Iraq at Maimak region fired 1thirteen 120mm mortar shells at (38S, NC/PC, 96000-12000) coordinates of Sarnai map, which incurred damages on few bankers of the Iranian forces.

36) On Feb. 25, 2001 at 11:40 hours, an Iraqi red painted intelligence gathering patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling in the waters of the I.R. of Iran at (39R,TP, 40500- 56300) coordinates of Abadan map.

37) On Feb. 25, 2001 at 03:25 hours, thirteen120mm mortar shells were fired from inside Iraq at Tapeh faiz to the Iranian forces stationed at (38S,NC/PC, 96000-12000) coordinates of Sarnai map, which incurred damages on the Iranian bankers.

38) On Feb. 27, 2001 at 21:00 hours, the Iraqi forces fired 40 to 50 Klashinkov shots from (39R, TP, 44200- 50100) coordinates of Abadan map to the Iranian forces.

39) On Mar. 5, 2001 at 01:25 hours, two81mm mortar shells were fired at (38S, PA/QA, 93000-06000) coordinates of Kouh Gotapeh map and two others at (38S,QA, 52000- 58000) coordinates of Yibis map.

40) On Mar. 1, 2001 at 11:30 hours, an Iraqi patrol boat carrying three persons was spotted patrolling at (39R,TP, 46400- 48600) coordinates of Khosro Abad map.

41) On Mar. 3, 2001 at 06:45 hours, an Iraqi cream painted patrol boat carrying two persons was spotted patrolling at (39R,TP/TN, 70500- 13700) coordinates of Nahr Alishir map.

42) On Mar. 2, 2001 at 09:05 hours, three power shovels were spotted at work at (38S, NB/PB, 97200-65200) coordinates of Mehran map.

B) BOARDER EVENTS:

1)On Dec. 22, 2001 at 01:00 hours, two Iraqis named Abuvafa Rabiee and Abdulhussain Rabice armed with Klashinkov tried to enter the territory of the I.R. of Iran at (38S, PB, 36000-44000) coordinates of Kouh Tunel map. The Iranian forces arrested them.

2)On Jan. 18, 2001 03:35 hours, a civilian named Yousef Mohammad Ali illegally tried to enter the territory of the I.R. of Iran at (38S, PB, 44000- 04000) coordinates of Khoosravi map. The Iranian forces arrested him.

3)On Feb. 24, 2001, an Iraqi solider was arrested because of illegal entry in the territory of the I.R. of Iran at (38S, PA/PB, 87000-08000) coordinates of Chai Gharah Tapeh map.

4)On Feb. 25, 2001 at 13:15 hours, two Iraqi military vehicles carrying seven persons was spotted filming the boarder strip at (39R, TP 15000- 75000) coordinates of Khoramshahr map.

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Identical letters dated 2 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 28 February 2002 from Mr. Naji Sabri, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 16 January to 15 February 2002 they carried out 537 hostile sorties, 72 of them from Saudi Arabia, 335 from Kuwait and 130 from Turkey. United States aircraft fired missiles at military and civilian sites in Dhi Qar and Ninawa governorates, killing four citizens and damaging some civilian and military installations.

The Minister states that Iraq regards the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the logistic support for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, as bearing full international responsibility for them. He further states that Iraq reserves its right, as established by the Charter of the United Nations and international law, to defend itself against these ongoing hostile, terrorist acts. He urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by ensuring that this persistent aggression is halted and does not recur and that its perpetrators and the regional parties that associate themselves with it are made to bear full legal responsibility for it.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 2 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that the United States of America and the United Kingdom have continued their aerial aggression against the Republic of Iraq. United States and British warplanes based in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Turkey have thus continued to violate Iraq's airspace. They flew 537 armed sorties in the period from 16 January to 15 February 2002, 72 of them from Saudi Arabia, 335 from Kuwait and 130 from Turkey, as shown in the statement enclosed herewith. On 21 and 23 January 2002 United States and British aircraft fired missiles at military and civilian sites in Dhi Qar governorate, and on 24 January 2002 they bombed military and civilian sites in Dhi Qar and Ninawa governorates, killing four citizens and damaging some civilian and military installations.

The enforcement by the United States and the United Kingdom of no-flight zones in northern and southern Iraq is a flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the established norms of international law and the Security Council resolutions urging States to respect Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence, and it constitutes ongoing armed aggression against Iraq. The international community has condemned the maintenance of the no-flight zones as representing an illegal use of force against an independent State. The United Nations has also done so, as exemplified by the statement of the Secretary-General at his press conference of 19 December 2001, when he said (press release SG/SM/8081):

> "[I indicated that] ... I did not see anything in the Security Council resolution that authorizes the imposition or the enforcement of a no-flight zone. But several countries have decided to do it ...".

The attacks being launched by United States and British aircraft on Iraqi towns and villages and on structures that are basic to life in the country, including health-care and educational establishments and houses of worship, constitute blatant and continuing State terrorism and gross interference in the internal affairs of Iraq. When the 30-nation aggression of 1991 failed to break the will of Iraqis or to impair their freedom and independence, the United States and the United Kingdom proceeded to take the unilateral decision to impose the no-flight zones, first in northern Iraq on 7 April 1991 and then in southern Iraq on 27 August 1992, and they used armed force to attack Iraqi civilian and military installations with a view to undermining Iraq's stability and endangering the lives of its people. The maintenance of these zones and the use of force in them therefore represent a violation of the principle of non-use of force as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and are in breach of the Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq, all of which affirm that Iraq's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity must be respected. Since the no-flight zones were first imposed, there have been 211,154 violations by United States and British aircraft, including violations in which military and civilian sites have been bombed and destroyed, and 1,476 people have been killed and more than 1,320 injured.

Although the entire world has condemned this aggression and despite the letters we address to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council providing details of these acts of terrorist aggression, the United States continues to proclaim its contempt for the Charter of the United Nations and the resolutions of the Security Council, and the Security Council has taken no action with regard to this terrorist aggression being committed by the United States and the United Kingdom. This raises serious questions about the credibility of the United Nations and the Security Council and about their capacity to apply the norms of the Charter to all without distinction and without the use of double standards or to safeguard international peace and security and halt the acts of aggression and intimidation of two of the permanent members of the Council that endanger the same international peace and security.

The Government of Iraq considers that the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for this terrorist aggression, namely Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, should bear full responsibility for these hostile acts. It affirms Iraq's established entitlement under the Charter of the United Nations and international law to exercise its legitimate right to defend itself against this ongoing hostile, terrorist activity. It further expresses the hope that you will perform the duties assigned to you as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security, that you will call upon the governments of the countries in question to halt their continuing aggression against Iraq forthwith and that you will ensure that those committing the aggression and the regional parties that are facilitating its continuation are made to bear full legal responsibility for it.

(*Signed*) Naji **Sabri**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Violations of the airspace of the Republic of Iraq by United States and British warplanes, 16 January-15 February 2002

I. Northern region

In the northern region 130 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

1. At 1855 hours on 17 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Rawanduz, Zakho, Dohuk and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2120 hours, drove them off.

2. At 2000 hours on 18 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Irbil and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2215 hours, drove them off.

3. At 1135 hours on 23 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 12 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1215 hours on 25 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Irbil, Ayn Sifni and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1515 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1115 hours on 29 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Irbil, Rawanduz and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1420 hours, drove them off.

6. At 1200 hours on 3 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and

overflew the Aqrah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Rawanduz and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1430 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1145 hours on 4 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Mosul, Baibo and Zakho areas. United States and British aircraft fired missiles at military and civilian sites in Ninawa governorate, killing four citizens and damaging some civilian and military installations. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1515 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1400 hours on 5 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 10 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Rawanduz and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1630 hours, drove them off.

At 1230 hours Turkish formations penetrated our national airspace in the area of the Iraq-Iran-Turkey tripoint, carrying out seven armed sorties. The aircraft overflew the Baibo, Aqrah, Rawanduz, Qal'at Dizah and Dokan areas and left our airspace at 1320 hours.

9. At 1220 hours on 10 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk, Irbil and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1445 hours, drove them off.

10. At 1120 hours on 13 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Turkey and from Turkish airspace penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out six armed sorties, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Aqrah, Dohuk and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1130 hours, drove them off.

II. Southern region

In the southern region 407 armed sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

1. At 1115 hours on 16 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 19 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C command

and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Salman, Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1325 hours, drove them off.

2. At 1315 hours on 17 January 2002, United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out four armed sorties, two of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and two from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1345 hours, drove them off.

3. At 1510 hours on 18 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 22 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Ashbajah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1630 hours, drove them off.

4. At 2025 hours on 21 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 24 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Jalibah, Qal'at Salih, Shatrah, Qurnah and Umm Qasr areas. United States and British aircraft fired missiles at military and civilian sites in the Nasiriyah area. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2240 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1955 hours on 22 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 10 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Salman, Artawi, Jalibah, Ashbajah, Nasiriyah and Samawah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2115 hours, drove them off.

6. At 2035 hours on 23 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, four of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating

inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Samawah, Rumaythah, Ashbajah, Nasiriyah and Artawi areas. United States and British aircraft fired missiles at civilian and military sites in the Nasiriyah area. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2230 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1525 hours on 24 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 24 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Ra's al-Bishah, Busayyah, Jalibah, Faw, Artawi, Ashbajah and Ma'aniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2205 hours, drove them off.

8. At 2125 hours on 25 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace and an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Nasiriyah, Busayyah, Jalibah, Salman and Jabayish areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2300 hours, drove them off.

9. At 1600 hours on 27 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace and an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Jalibah, Busayyah, Salman, Nasiriyah, Ashbajah, Rumaythah, Samawah and Qal'at Sukkar areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1725 hours, drove them off.

10. At 1615 hours on 29 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Safwan, Jalibah, Busayyah, Salman, Ashbajah and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1745 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1910 hours on 31 January 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Jalibah, Busayyah, Nasiriyah, Salman, Artawi and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2030 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1845 hours on 1 February 2002, United States and British F-14 and F-15 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Umm Qasr, Busayyah, Ashbajah, Salman, Safwan, Lasaf and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2000 hours, drove them off.

13. At 1905 hours on 2 February 2002, United States and British F-14 and F-15 aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 22 armed sorties, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 14 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Ashbajah, Salman, Safwan, Artawi and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2050 hours, drove them off.

14. At 1900 hours on 3 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Shinafiyah, Samawah, Busayyah, Ashbajah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2055 hours, drove them off.

15. At 1940 hours on 4 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, six of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Basrah, Salman, Diwaniyah South, Artawi and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in

exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2105 hours, drove them off.

16. At 1945 hours on 5 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 26 armed sorties, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 18 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Amarah, Salman, Jalibah and Nasiriyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 2100 hours, drove them off.

17. At 1405 hours on 8 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Ashbajah, Lasaf, Shinafiyah and Nukhayb areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1600 hours, drove them off.

18. At 1330 hours on 9 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Busayyah, Jalibah, Ashbajah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1515 hours, drove them off.

19. At 1335 hours on 10 February 2002, United States and British F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 armed sorties, two of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Butmah, Salman, Jalibah, Ashbajah, Samawah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1455 hours, drove them off.

20. At 1300 hours on 11 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 10 armed sorties, four of them from Saudi

territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Shinafiyah and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1420 hours, drove them off.

21. At 1310 hours on 12 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Jalibah, Artawi, Taqtaqanah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1520 hours, drove them off.

22. At 1220 hours on 14 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 27 armed sorties, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 15 from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Salman, Basrah, Jalibah, Busayyah, Shinafiyah and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

23. At 1100 hours on 15 February 2002, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and from Kuwaiti and Saudi airspace and territorial waters penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 25 armed sorties from Kuwaiti territory and by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Jalibah, Nukhayb, Safwan, Talhah, Ashbajah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in exercise of the legitimate right to defend the homeland, engaged the aircraft and, at 1400 hours, drove them off.

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Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 2 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement made by an official Iraqi spokesman to the Iraqi News Agency on 28 February 2002 in reply to statements of Mr. Tony Blair, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, in which he accused Iraq of continuing to produce weapons of mass destruction.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Aldouri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-27400 (E) 060302 060302

Annex to the letter dated 2 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Iraq announces its immediate readiness to receive a British mission sent by Tony Blair to ascertain the veracity of his allegations

Baghdad, 28 February 2002

Iraq has announced its immediate readiness to receive a British mission sent by British Prime Minister Tony Blair to check his allegations that Iraq is still producing weapons of mass destruction.

An authorized official spokesman made the following statement to the Iraqi News Agency: "In a recent statement, British Prime Minister Tony Blair alleged that Iraq was continuing to produce weapons of mass destruction. Blair frequently makes tendentious statements hostile to Iraq in keeping with the American position, without seeking to be accurate or basing himself on fact."

The spokesman added: "We say, however, that whoever has correct information regarding that allegation must know how and where Iraq is attempting to produce such weapons. If Blair tells us how and where and declares this before the world, we are immediately ready to receive a British mission sent by Tony Blair himself, accompanied by a group of British media persons to show us how and where."

The spokesman concluded his statement as follows: "We, for our part, shall be present with them on their tour of Iraq, represented by Iraqi, Arab and international media, ambassadors and representatives of States accredited in Iraq to document to the world the facts as they are and to show the world who is engaging in idle talk and who is telling the truth."

United Nations S/2002/227

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2002
English
Original: French

Letter dated 1 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw to your attention the statement on Angola issued on 28 February 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Permanent Representative

02-27270 (E) 050302 050302

Annex to the letter dated 1 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement on Angola issued on 28 February 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union, having learned of the recent death of Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, leader of the military wing of UNITA, reaffirms the urgent need to put an end to the long-standing internal conflict that is causing a very severe humanitarian situation in the country.

It is the strong conviction of the European Union that the end of the Angolan conflict can only be achieved through an effective engagement of all in peace and national reconciliation, on the basis of the Lusaka Protocol. In this context, the European Union calls for a rapid cessation of hostilities and urges all Angolans to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in order to promote the democratic, social and economic development of the country. The European Union welcomes hereby the important role of civil society in finding lasting peace in the country.

The European Union takes note of the Government's engagement to fully implement the Lusaka Protocol, welcomes the positive signals from the Government of Angola to date and looks forward to the early publication of the announced detailed programme leading to a definitive end to all the hostilities in Angola.

The European Union would also welcome the immediate adoption of concrete measures to address the existing humanitarian situation in Angola, in particular in those parts of the country where military activities have been continuing so far.

The European Union supports and encourages the United Nations in promoting the peace process.

The European Union wishes that the conditions may be created for the Government's commitment to hold free and fair general elections to be fulfilled, effectively reinforcing the democratic process in Angola.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

United Nations S/2002/228

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 4 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit an address to the nation by Alhaji Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, on the lifting of the state of public emergency on Friday, 1 March 2002 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim M. **Kamara**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-27300 (E) 060302

Annex to the letter dated 4 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Address to the nation by His Excellency the President Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah on the lifting of the state of public emergency

1 March 2002

Fellow citizens:

I have good news for you all. In fact I should say I have good news for all of us, two pieces of good news. Since all news is not the same, and because these are so special, I believe I should start by giving you the background.

No one, and I mean no one, would deny that for almost 10 years there was a human tragedy in our country. Some called it a civil war. Others described it as a rebel war. For others it was just another armed conflict in one small corner of the African continent. We knew that whatever its name, it was a terrible and devastating war.

Fellow citizens, this is not the time to assess the magnitude of our loss in terms of innocent lives, limbs and property. Indeed, this is not the time to try to express in words the trauma that victims of the war have experienced and will continue to undergo for years to come.

Let's put it this way. During that tragic period in our history life was not always normal for the average Sierra Leonean. There was not only a threat to peace, but there were also actual and sometimes heinous breaches of the peace. There was actual breakdown of public order and safety in many parts of the country. Who can deny that there were instances of armed incursion into our country from abroad? And who can deny that, on several occasions during that period, there were attempts not only to politically destabilize Sierra Leone, but also efforts to wipe out its entire population.

Fellow citizens, those were extraordinary circumstances, circumstances that required extraordinary measures. We had the moral right to respond appropriately in defence of the safety and security of our people. This is why I always say that a war was waged on us, and we merely responded in self-defence. Of course, as a democracy — and we are proud of it — we cannot take extraordinary measures arbitrarily. We had to respond within the supreme law of our country, namely the Constitution. This was why we invoked the appropriate provision of the Constitution and declared a state of public emergency.

As you all know, over the past several months life for thousands of our people has been gradually returning to normal. There have been positive and significant developments in the overall situation in the country.

On 18 January this year, we marked the end of the disarmament and demobilization process. Although we are still faced with the important and expensive task of reintegrating ex-combatants into society, we can all breathe a sigh of relief that the armed conflict is over. Civil institutions of governance are being re-established in all areas previously occupied by armed non-State elements. Our own restructured armed forces are now deployed in strategic positions throughout the

country, armed with, among other things, a new sense of loyalty to the nation. Our restructured police force is progressively being equipped with the wherewithal for enhancing safety. Moreover, the police have a new vision of their responsibility to earn the respect of law-abiding citizens.

I cannot end this portion of my message without paying tribute to our armed forces, the United Kingdom, the police and other institutions, as well as ECOMOG, UNAMSIL and the CDF, for their contributions to our collective effort in making this country safer and more secure than it has ever been, at least in the past five years.

Fellow citizens, here is the first piece of good news.

In view of these positive developments, and the prospects for further improvement, I am happy to declare that the conditions for maintaining extraordinary measures for security and public order in Sierra Leone no longer exist.

Accordingly, the state of public emergency is lifted with immediate effect.

That is not all. I also have another piece of good news. And I will appeal to each and every one of us to listen to it carefully.

The lifting of the state of public emergency is not a licence for any group of persons to take matters into their own hands. Law and order will be maintained and maintained vigorously. The armed forces, the police and other State security institutions will continue to do their job, and will remain vigilant. We shall not tolerate any attempt to disrupt the peace, security and safety of the State of Sierra Leone and its peoples. Primary responsibility for security and safety lies with the armed forces, the police and other national security institutions. However, I must emphasize that individual citizens also have a responsibility. As our Constitution says, every citizen of Sierra Leone should "render assistance to appropriate and lawful agencies in the maintenance of law and order".

Our response to any threat or imminent threat within our borders, or from any external element, will be swift, robust and decisive. We are not going to take anything for granted. Of course, as a democracy and a member of the community of nations, our response will always be in accordance with the laws of this country, and our rights and obligations under international law.

Let no one underestimate our capacity and determination to take appropriate measures, and extraordinary measures if and when necessary, to ensure the safety and security of our people.

Fellow citizens, these are the two pieces of good news I wanted to share with you.

Let me close with this timely and relevant question. My dear people, haven't we had enough violence in our country?

Let us all reflect on this question as we spread the two pieces of good news I have just announced around the country.

Thank you for your attention.

United Nations S/2002/229

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 4 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, in the context of the role being played by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in the African continent to promote security and peace and to resolve conflicts between the African States, the Jamahiriya has contributed the sum of $200,000 towards the expenses of the negotiations on national reconciliation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo that are being facilitated by Sir Ketumile Masire, the former President of Botswana. The sum has been transferred and has been placed for that purpose at the disposal of Sir Ketumile Masire.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abuzed Omar **Dorda**
Permanent Representative

02-27276 (E) 050302 050302

United Nations S/2002/230

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 4 March 2002 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey the attached communication, dated 28 February 2002, which I received from the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

02-27233 (E) 050302

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Annex

Letter dated 28 February 2002 from the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the Secretary-General

The Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council requested me to inform you that today they accepted the offer made by the EU General Affairs Council to provide a European Union Police Mission (EUPM) to follow the International Police Task Force mandate from 1 January 2003.

At the same session, the Steering Board designated Lord Ashdown as the new High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and asked the Security Council to endorse his appointment.

I have enclosed a copy of the Steering Board communiqué of 28 February 2002 for your further reference.

I look forward to seeing you in New York next week.

(*Signed*) Wolfgang **Petritsch**

Enclosure

Communiqué issued by the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council at Brussels on 28 February 2002

The PIC Steering Board met at the level of Political Directors with the High Representative in Brussels on February 28, 2002. The Steering Board welcomed the opportunity to meet with UNMIBH, OSCE, UNHCR, UNDP, IMF and World Bank to recalibrate and streamline the international civilian implementation effort in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The presence of SFOR was also appreciated.

The Steering Board welcomes the work of the Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina in preparing Bosnia and Herzegovina's first general elections under local responsibility on 5 October this year. The Steering Board underlines the responsibility of the Bosnian political leaders and institutions to ensure that the Bosnian people are able to exercise their democratic rights. The Steering Board appreciates OSCE's current and future engagement to assure a seamless transition of the BiH election operations to the competent authorities through seconding core staff to the Secretariat of the Election Commission. The Steering Board recognizes that the Bi[illegible] authorities have provided an initial amount of 1.1 million KM to the BiH Election Commission, and urges them to secure the rest of the necessary funding in time.

The Steering Board is encouraged by the recent re-enforced efforts by BiH political leaders to find agreement among themselves in the implementation of the 'Constituent Peoples' Decision. However, time to achieve a solution that will permit the elections to proceed as scheduled is fast running out. The Steering Board therefore strongly urges the political leadership in the country to focus on achievable solutions and to reach a final agreement on this matter, and welcomes the recognition by the BiH political leaders that this must be done by mid-March 2002. Failure to demonstrate 'ownership' on this issue would have serious negative consequences and would retard BiH's integration into European structures. On the other hand a domestic resolution would not only allow for the proper conduct of the October 2002 General Elections but would also serve as proof that BiH is indeed ready for forthcoming admittance to the Council of Europe.

The Steering Board endorses the refined Task Force Model as presented by the High Representative. This model will facilitate the development of a still more effective international presence, thus strengthening the role of the High Representative. It includes Rule of Law, Institution Building, Economic, and Return & Reconstruction Task Forces, a Cabinet of lead agencies chaired by the High Representative, and a Situation Group. The Steering Board welcomes this framework and the appropriate integration of BiH authorities into these structures. It also endorses the presented measures aimed at achieving closer and more efficient coordination in the field and at reducing IC field presence by 30% by the end of 2003.

The Steering Board commends OHR, and in particular Principal Deputy High Representative Donald Hays, for the additional extensive consultation process undertaken with all peace implementation agencies in BiH since the last Steering Board Meeting in December 2001. It appreciates the endorsement of the presented concept by all affected agencies on the ground. The Steering Board notes that based on the streamlining plan as well as on the completion of mandated tasks or their transfer to Bosnian authorities or permanent IC agencies, the OHR operational budget will further decline in the coming two years. The OHR plan sets an appropriate course for meeting the overall objectives of the streamlining process - essentially a re-calibrated IC presence in BiH with enhanced efficiency and the use of fewer resources - and should proceed to full implementation by the High Representative.

The PIC Steering Board welcomes and accepts the offer made by the EU General Affairs Council on February 18/19 to provide an EU Police Mission (EUPM), from January 1, 2003, to follow the end of the UN/IPTF mandate, which would ensure the continuing professional development of the police forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period of three years. This will be done through mentoring, monitoring, and inspection of BiH police personnel and structures. It will be supported by the European Community's institution building programs, thus permitting a broad approach addressing the whole range of Rule-of-Law aspects. In this it will be cooperating closely with the Independent Judicial Commission, OSCE, and relevant bilateral programs under the umbrella of the Rule-of-Law Task Force. The Steering Board also welcomes the agreement of the EU to invite non-EU member states to participate in the EUPM. It appreciates the interest already shown and the upcoming consultations to this effect. The Steering Board welcomes the EU's intention to continue to coordinate with the UN and to consult with relevant organizations, in particular NATO and OSCE. The Steering Board notes the need for high-quality international police professionals to staff the Mission in order to ensure its effectiveness. The Steering Board offers its full support to the EU for achieving, in co-ordination with UNMIBH and OHR and in accordance with appropriate arrangements providing full compliance with the GFAP acquis, a seamless transition of responsibilities from UNMIBH/IPTF to the EUPM. The Steering Board requests the High Representative to inform the Secretary General of the United Nations of its decision.

The Steering Board takes note of the EU's intention to appoint the next High Representative as the European Union Special Representative (EUSR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the understanding that the role of the EUSR would not in any way prejudge the mandate of the High Representative, including his coordinating role with regard to the activities of all civilian organizations and agencies as set out in the Dayton Peace Agreement and subsequent PIC decisions.

The Steering Board endorses the reinvigorated strategy for judicial reform in 2002/03 in order to strengthen the Rule of Law efforts as proposed by the High Representative. In this context, it recognizes the importance of the creation of a High Judicial Council for BiH as well as the reform of key procedural laws. The Steering Board endorses the restructuring of the court system and the consequent reduction in the number of judges, which will require a selection process and termination of mandates. It invites the Council of Europe and other relevant institutions to provide advice to the OHR and the Independent Judicial Commission in order to refine the implementation plan of this strategy. It notes that the proposed strategy has been devised in response to calls by the authorities in BiH for firmer IC actions to tackle economic crime, corruption and problems inherent to the judicial system. The Steering Board insists on the need for measures that will contribute decisively to building an independent and more efficient judicial system that enjoys the confidence of the public and enhances the environment for foreign investment.

The Steering Board agrees that when the IJC's new mandate is put in place, IJC should be self-managed and directly accountable to its donors, while fully applying OHR administration and finance policies and procedures. The IJC shall continue to take policy direction from and be responsible to the High Representative

The Steering Board attaches great importance to the apprehension of Radovan Karadzic and all other ICTY indictees. It urges domestic authorities to arrest them without further delay and also calls on all indictees to turn themselves in voluntarily. Without exception all persons indicted for war crimes by ICTY must stand trial before the Hague Tribunal.

The Steering Board noted with regret High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch's announcement that he would stand down as High Representative at the end of May 2002. The Steering Board warmly congratulated High Representative Petritsch for his extraordinary commitment to the development of BiH and to the peace process. The Board emphasized that there has been considerable progress during his tenure over the last two and a half years in many key areas. As a result of High Representative Petritsch's efforts BiH is substantially more stable, democratic and closer to Europe than when he assumed office.

The Steering Board designated Lord Ashdown as the new High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the nomination put forward by the EU, to succeed High Representative Petritsch, and asked the United Nations Security Council to endorse his appointment.

The Steering Board reaffirmed that High Representative Petritsch would continue to have its full support up to the end of his mandate.

United Nations A/56/856–S/2002/231

General Assembly
Security Council

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5 March 2002
English
Original: French

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 48
Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 28 February 2002 from the Permanent Representatives of Guinea, Liberia, Morocco and Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the joint communiqué adopted following the summit meeting of the heads of State of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone which took place in Rabat, Morocco, on 27 February 2002 (see annex).

The three heads of State agreed to maintain regular contacts among themselves and to convene a follow-up summit meeting in Rabat.

We should be grateful if you would have this communiqué circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 48, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) François Lonseny **Fall**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Guinea to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Lami **Kawah**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Liberia to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Mohamed **Bennouna**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Ibrahim M'baba **Kamara**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Sierra Leone to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 28 February 2002 from the Permanent Representatives of Guinea, Liberia, Morocco and Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Joint communiqué

1. On the invitation of His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco, the Leaders of the Mano River Union States of Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia met in the Moroccan Capital of Rabat on Wednesday, 27 February 2002, to address matters of mutual interest to Member States.

2. His Majesty The King hosted the Summit. Their Excellencies General Lansana Conte, President of the Republic of Guinea, Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Dahkpanah Dr. Charles Ghankay Taylor, President of the Republic of Liberia participated in the deliberations.

3. The Summit was pursuant to the recommendations made by the Foreign Ministers of the Mano River Union and the Joint Security Committee in a series of meetings held in their respective Capitals in August and September of 2001.

4. Endorsing the recommendations of those meetings, the three heads of State reiterated their willingness to restore a climate of peace and security in the Mano River Union in accordance with the aspirations of their peoples.

5. They further:

(i) Approved the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Security Committee meeting on the reactivation of the Fifteenth Protocol on Defence and Security, held in Freetown, on 22 and 23 August 2001, and in Conakry, from 8 to 10 September 2001;

(ii) Directed the Joint Security Committee (JSC) to implement the recommendations contained in the report, and further directed the JSC to meet in Freetown on 4th of March 2002, to commence the implementation of the process. The Joint Security Committee will submit a progress report to the Foreign Ministers no later than 28 March 2002.

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs shall meet in Rabat, one week after the submission of the progress report for the purpose of reviewing the report and preparing for the next Summit of Heads of State.

(iii) Reaffirmed the commitment of their Governments to strictly adhere to the Non-Aggression and the Security Cooperation Treaty of 1986, entered into by the Governments of Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia;

(iv) Appealed to the international community to provide assistance for the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Security Committee;

(v) Further reaffirmed their support for the pursuit of genuine national reconciliation throughout the Mano River Union Subregion, and, in this respect, the three heads of State welcomed the reconciliation efforts under way in Liberia and encouraged all parties to lend their full cooperation to these efforts;

(vi) They outrightly condemned all dissident activities in the Subregion and agreed to work collectively to curb the activities of armed groups operating in the Subregion in general, and the Mano River Union in particular;

(vii) Agreed to avoid the use of force in settling disputes, bearing in mind the historic links that bind their peoples;

(viii) Deplored the escalating conflict in the Sister State of Liberia and the humanitarian tragedies occurring as a result of this conflict;

(ix) Expressed their readiness to make the Mano River Union an organization capable of promoting socio-economic development in the subregion;

(x) Welcomed the progress made in the political situation in Sierra Leone, which culminated in the official declaration of the end of the decade-long rebel war on 18 January 2002;

(xi) Expressed their appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Guinea and the international community for the humanitarian assistance they have provided to refugees and requested additional support to victims of the crisis in Liberia particularly the internally displaced persons;

(xii) Expressed their appreciation and encouraged the contribution of the Mano River Women Peace Network, Civil Society Movement and Inter-faith groups;

(xiii) Expressed their satisfaction over the cordial and friendly atmosphere under which they held their deliberations.

6. Further expressed their profound gratitude to their friend and brother, His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the Government and People of Morocco for the warm African hospitality extended to them during their stay.

7. His Majesty King Mohammed VI for his part, thanked the heads of State of the Mano River Union for the honour accorded him and the confidence reposed in his person, the Government and the People of Morocco in accepting his invitation.

8. His Majesty solemnly took note of the political will and commitment of the three heads of State of the Mano River Union to work for the restoration of peace in their Subregion and expressed his willingness and the support of the Kingdom of Morocco for the achievement of this goal.

9. As a confidence-building measure, the heads of State agreed to maintain regular contacts and to hold regular meetings among themselves.

10. Finally, the three heads of State agreed to convene a follow-up summit meeting in Rabat.

Done in Rabat, 27 February 2002.

In French and English languages, both texts being equally authentic:

Attested by
His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco

For the Republic of Guinea
General Lansana Conte

For the Republic of Sierra Leone
Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah

For the Republic of Liberia
Dahkpanah Dr. Charles Ghankay Taylor

United Nations A/ES-10/152–S/2002/232

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
5 March 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 5 March 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Late yesterday, Israeli helicopter gunships targeted the official compound of President Yasser Arafat in Ramallah, firing two missiles at a building in the compound. President Arafat was present at the time of the attack, a fact well-known to the occupying forces, which clearly posed danger to his life. This crazy attack, which is against all international norms and standards, compounds the military siege being imposed by the Israeli occupying forces on the Palestinian president. Both reflect the madness of this Israeli government and only ensure the continuing deterioration of the already grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Also yesterday, Israeli occupying forces bombed a Palestinian security building in Bethlehem with F-16 warplanes and completely destroyed another Palestinian building in the city. Those attacks caused the injury of several Palestinians and caused more physical destruction to the Palestinian infrastructure that has already been severely devastated by the relentless and barbaric Israeli military campaign being waged against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian leadership. At the same time, other attacks were carried out by the Israeli occupying forces in Gaza, including Israeli naval missile fire aiming at President Arafat's headquarters in the city and an attack on a Palestinian national guard building in Khan Yunis.

Today, the Israeli occupying forces also committed yet another extrajudiciary execution. An Israeli helicopter gunship targeted a car in Ramallah, killing the three Palestinian men in the car with missile fire. In addition, earlier today, a Palestinian man was killed by Israeli forces in the village of Dura near Al-Khalil, and five Palestinians were abducted by the Israeli forces in villages near Nablus and Al-Khalil.

In another serious development today, a bomb exploded in the yard of a Palestinian school in Occupied East Jerusalem, wounding several students and a teacher. A previously unknown Israeli terrorist group claimed responsibility for the

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bombing. Two more bombs were also found at the school and a fourth bomb was found at a nearby community clinic. This represents yet another form of Israeli terrorism against the Palestinian people in addition to that committed by the Israeli occupying forces and the illegal armed settlers.

We hold Israel, the occupying Power, responsible for all of these war crimes, State terrorism and other human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people. Such crimes, terrorism and violations constitute the established policy of the government of Mr. Ariel Sharon, who has made extremely clear his intention to continue, and indeed intensify, the military assault against the Palestinian people being waged since September 2000. In this regard, we reiterate our call for the United Nations Security Council to uphold its responsibilities and take the necessary action in follow-up of its meetings of 21, 26 and 27 February 2002.

In follow-up to our previous 102 letters to you regarding the grave deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 4 March 2002 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941; A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149; A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166; A/ES-10/133-S/2001/1239; A/ES-10/134-S/2001/126; A/ES-10/136-S/2002/18; A/ES-10/137-S/2002/39; A/ES-10/138-S/2002/48; A/ES-10/139-S/2002/58; A/ES-10/140-S/2002/89; A/ES-10/141-S/2002/95; A/ES-10/142-S/2002/102; A/ES-10/143-S/2002/121; A/ES-10/144-S/2002/142; A/ES-10/145-S/2002/146; A/ES-10/146-S/2002/165; A/ES-10/147-S/2002/175; A/ES-10/148-S/2002/182; A/ES-10/149-S/2002/190; A/ES-10/150-

S/2002/214 and A/ES-10/151-S/2002/223), and since my letter to you yesterday, I regret to inform you that five more Palestinians were killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.)

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador, Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 5 March 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Monday, 4 March 2002 to Tuesday, 5 March 2002)

Monday, 4 March 2002 (in addition to the martyrs listed in the annex to the letter of 4 March 2002)

Fuad Hassan Basharat

Tuesday, 5 March 2002

1. Mohammed Suleiman Hassan Al-'Atawneh
2. Muhanad Abu Halawa
3. Omar Safi
4. Fawzi Marar

* The total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 985.

United Nations A/56/857–S/2002/233

General Assembly
Security Council

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5 March 2002

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 5 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In the last 24 hours, Palestinian terrorists have continued to escalate their bloody campaign against Israeli civilians.

At approximately 2 a.m. (local time) this morning, a Palestinian gunman, armed with an M-16 semiautomatic rifle, opened fire on a crowded restaurant in central Tel Aviv. After using up his ammunition, the terrorist then ran towards the restaurant, hurling grenades and stabbing passers-by with a knife. Three Israelis — Salim Barakat, age 33, Yosef Abey, age 52, and Eli Dahan, age 53 — were killed in the attack, and more than 30 others were wounded, 2 of them seriously. The Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, a group belonging to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's own Fatah faction, took responsibility for the attack.

This morning, at approximately 8 a.m. (local time), Devorah Friedman, age 45, and her husband, Yona, were travelling northward towards Jerusalem when their vehicle was ambushed by Palestinian terrorists. Friedman was killed in the attack and her husband sustained serious gunshot wounds. Palestinian gunmen also wounded an Israeli television reporter who arrived on the scene later.

Minutes after the killing of Devorah Friedman, a suicide bomber blew himself up aboard a public bus in the northern Israeli town of Afula. The blast killed one Israeli and wounded 10 others. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the attack.

Later in the day, at approximately 6 p.m. (local time), two Kassam rockets were fired from Palestinian territory at the southern Israeli town of Sderot. One of the rockets landed on a residential apartment building, injuring three Israelis, two of them children.

These attacks are only the latest incidents in the ongoing Palestinian campaign of terrorism. Previous attacks have been detailed in letters dated 27 February 2002 (A/56/828-S/2002/185), 19 February 2002 (A/56/824-S/2002/174), 11 February 2002 (A/56/819-S/2002/164), 8 February 2002 (A/56/814-S/2002/155), 28 January 2002 (A/56/798-S/2002/126), 22 January 2002 (A/56/788-S/2002/104), 18 January

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2002 (A/56/781-S/2002/86), 16 January 2002 (A/56/774-S/2002/73), 11 January 2002 (A/56/771-S/2002/47), 4 January 2002 (A/56/766-S/2002/25), 13 December 2001 (A/56/706-S/2001/1198), 4 December 2001 (A/56/678-S/2001/1150), 30 November 2001 (A/56/670-S/2001/1141), 27 November 2001 (A/56/663-S/2001/1121), 12 November 2001 (A/56/617-S/2001/1071), 5 November 2001 (A/56/604-S/2001/1048), 24 October 2001 (A/56/506-S/2001/1011), 19 October 2001 (A/56/492-S/2001/990), 17 October 2001 (A/56/483-S/2001/975), 8 October 2001 (A/56/450-S/2001/948), 5 October 2001 (A/56/444-S/2001/943), 3 October 2001 (A/56/438-S/2001/938), 24 September 2001 (A/56/406-S/2001/907), 20 September 2001 (A/56/386-S/2001/892), 17 September 2001 (A/56/367-S/2001/875), 7 September 2001 (A/56/346-S/2001/858), 4 September 2001 (A/56/331-S/2001/840), 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001 (A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

Israel holds the Palestinian Authority and its Chairman, Yasser Arafat, directly responsible for these attacks. Chairman Arafat's Fatah forces continue to be the leading Palestinian group carrying out acts of terror against Israelis. Rather than dismantling the infrastructure of terror, in accordance with repeated signed agreements with Israel and in conformity with the will of the international community, Chairman Arafat continues to encourage and support acts of violence against Israeli civilians.

The international community must unequivocally affirm that any deliberate targeting of civilians is absolutely unacceptable and, within the context of its campaign against terrorism, demand that the Palestinian leadership take genuine action against the terrorist organizations that it harbours in its territory. While Israel remains committed to reaching a negotiated peace settlement with the Palestinians on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), the first step in this regard is that mandated by both the Mitchell Report and the Tenet understanding, namely a complete and unconditional cessation of violence. No political process can have any hope of bearing fruit while the Palestinian leadership

condones attacks against Israeli civilians. Only once the Palestinian leadership rejects terrorism in both word and deed, as is its obligation, will the parties be able to move forward towards a future of peaceful coexistence.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/ES-10/153–S/2002/234

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 5 March 2002 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I would like to draw your attention once again to the extremely alarming situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. Allow me to focus on some areas that are of particular concern to the Committee.

In the course of the past several weeks, the security situation on the ground has been steadily worsening. Daily, innocent civilians on both sides are killed and injured in unending violence. Since the beginning of the Al-Aqsa intifada, over 1,000 Palestinians and some 300 Israelis have lost their lives. In an effort to quell actions by Palestinian militants, Israel has resorted to fighter jets and helicopter gunships, heavy armour and the use of special army units. Shelling targets in densely populated areas, in particular in the Gaza Strip, has resulted in a considerable human toll and widescale destruction of residential and other buildings. Incursions into Palestinian towns and areas have now become "business as usual" for the Israel Defense Forces. In yet another worrying development, the Israel Defense Forces have made several incursions into Palestine refugee camps in Balata and Jenin in the West Bank and in Rafah in the Gaza Strip, leaving large numbers of dead and injured persons. In addition, the situation at Israeli checkpoints and roadblocks throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory has noticeably deteriorated. Over one week alone, we have witnessed several tragic incidents at roadblocks, with at least three cases involving pregnant women.

Recently, the Israel Defense Forces have stepped up attacks against the various elements of the Palestinian Authority. It has totally or partially destroyed scores of Palestinian Authority facilities, including its security and police installations, radio and TV stations, as well as Palestinian airport and naval facilities. Our Committee also strongly condemns the virtual house arrest of Chairman Arafat. This harsh measure against the leader of the Palestinian people should be lifted immediately.

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In the 18 months of the intifada, the economic deprivation of the Palestinian people has reached catastrophic proportions. Thousands of Palestinian families have been left without any source of income, increasingly dependent on emergency relief. The almost methodical destruction of towns, villages and agricultural lands has made large numbers of Palestinians homeless and has led to their internal displacement — a dangerous new development. Overall, we are witnessing the unfolding of a humanitarian crisis. It is incumbent on the international community to address this situation and provide the Palestinian people with the much-needed humanitarian assistance.

It has been said on many occasions and in various quarters that the conflict cannot be resolved by means of force. The parties must restore mutual trust through positive actions on the ground and bridge their differences through meaningful negotiations. In this context, the Committee welcomes and supports all initiatives leading the parties out of the present impasse towards a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the principle of land for peace. We, in the Committee, also fully agree with your assessment of the present situation and share the view that efforts at re-establishing security should be complemented by dramatic steps in the political and socio-economic areas. In the Committee's view, the work of the "Quartet", composed of representatives of the two co-sponsors of the peace process, the European Union and the United Nations, has acquired special importance and can indeed catalyse the broader international effort at bringing peace to the region. This is especially critical now, as the divide between the two sides appears to be rapidly growing. Innovative approaches and fresh ideas emanating from regional and extraregional parties are therefore necessary and should be encouraged. We all have to act now. The international community cannot afford to waste more time in the quest for peace in the Middle East.

However, in working for peace in the region, we should be acutely aware that no solution to the conflict could be found without addressing its core problem — the question of the continuing illegal Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. To be successful, all peacemaking efforts should take this central premise into account. It is also clear that the Israelis and the Palestinians will only be able to enjoy peace and normality when the occupation becomes a thing of the past.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate our Committee's position that the United Nations should maintain its permanent responsibility for the question of Palestine until it is resolved in a satisfactory manner, in conformity with relevant United Nations resolutions and international legitimacy and until the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are fully realized.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Papa Louis **Fall**
Chairman
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable
Rights of the Palestinian People

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Security Council

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6 March 2002

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Letter dated 4 March 2002 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1390 (2002) of 16 January 2002, and in particular to paragraph 9, in which the Security Council requested me to assign the Monitoring Group established pursuant to paragraph 4 (a) of resolution 1363 (2001) to monitor, for a period of 12 months, the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 2 of resolution 1390 (2002).

In the light of the request contained in paragraph 9 of resolution 1390 (2002), I wish to inform you that I have hereby assigned the Monitoring Group to monitor the implementation of the above-referred measures until 16 January 2003.

The composition of the Monitoring Group will remain unchanged and will consist of Michael Chandler (United Kingdom), Chairman, Philippe Graver (France), Michael D. Langan (United States of America), Hassan H. Ali Abaza (Jordan) and Surendra Bahadur Shah (Nepal).

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Letter dated 28 February 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of an appeal of the Khojaly refugees addressed to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with the tenth anniversary of the Khojaly genocide perpetrated by Armenian forces in February 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Chargé d'affaires

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Annex to the letter dated 28 February 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Appeal by the Khojaly refugees addressed to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

In appealing to the United Nations, the Council of Europe (CE) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which are authoritative international organizations, our objective is to bring to the attention of world public opinion the truth about the Khojaly genocide perpetuated by Armenians in the Nagorny Karabakh region of Azerbaijan in February 1992 and to ensure that this bloody crime is given a political assessment.

Any person who is more or less acquainted with the history of Azerbaijan knows that the town of Khojaly, which is situated in the mountainous part of Karabakh and has existed from the third millennium before the Common Era, is one of the ancient settlements of Azerbaijan. The unique archaeological finds and historic monuments discovered during excavations carried out in the territory of the town of Khojaly are clear proof of this.

The Armenians, who erected a monument in 1978 in the Nagorny Karabakh region on the occasion of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the resettlement of their ancestors from Persia to Azerbaijan, have, in order to achieve the realization of the illusion of "Greater Armenia" at the expense of the historic lands of Azerbaijan, consistently carried out over the past two centuries, with the help of their patrons abroad, an aggressive policy directed against Azerbaijan and, at different periods, have not disdained such crimes against humanity as monstrous acts of terror, mass bloodshed, deportation and genocide in order to attain this insidious goal.

Numerous historical documents demonstrate that millions of Azerbaijanis, who were subjected, during the years 1905-1907, 1918-1920 and 1948-1953, to a policy of ethnic cleansing and genocide in their historic ethnic territories, were in massive numbers murdered and deported from the lands of their fathers and grandfathers. Beginning in 1988, the unfounded territorial claims against Azerbaijan were again put forward, Armenian separatism raised its head, and the Nagorny Karabakh provocation, which has no historical, political or ethnic basis to support it, was initiated. In 1998 and 1999, more than 250,000 Azerbaijanis, who had lived in their historic ethnic lands in Armenia, were all deported, and hundreds of peaceful inhabitants were brutally murdered. As a result, Armenia became a monoethnic republic, which had been the dream of Armenians for years.

Unfortunately, the Nagorny Karabakh conflict, which began in 1988 for no reasons other than territorial ones, the Armenian reaction that was raging in Azerbaijani territories and the sufferings of the peaceful Azerbaijani population that was the victim of this reaction were met with indifferent silence on the part of the leaders of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) and the civilized world. The Armenians were encouraged by this and, making use of the situation,

resorted to a policy of genocide against Azerbaijanis and committed unprecedented historic crimes, one after the other. Armenia's armed forces occupied 20 per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan, including seven administrative districts that were not part of the Nagorny Karabakh region; more than a million Azerbaijanis were barbarously expelled from their native lands, and tens of thousands of people were murdered, maimed and taken hostage. Hundreds of settlements and thousands of public and cultural buildings, educational and health-care institutions, cultural and historic monuments, mosques, holy places of pilgrimage and cemeteries were obliterated from the face of the earth and subjected to unprecedented vandalism by Armenians.

The tragedies, terror and mass bloodshed perpetuated by Armenian armed units during the first years of the conflict in Karabakh villages such as Kyarkijahan, Meshali, Gushchular, Garabagly, Agdaban and others where Azerbaijanis lived, and, finally, the Khojaly genocide are historic crimes which will remain forever as a black stain on the consciences of the "long-suffering Armenians".

On 26 February 1992, the Khojaly genocide was added to the list of such crimes against humanity as Khatyn, Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Song My, which are considered the most monstrous tragedies of the century.

On the night of 25/26 February 1992, Armenian armed units, directly supported by the 366th regiment of the former USSR, stationed at that time in the town of Khankendi (Stepanakert), attacked, from five directions, the town of Khojaly, where approximately 7,000 Azerbaijanis were living. At the time of the attack, there were about 3,000 inhabitants in the town. By that time, Khojaly had already been under siege by Armenian armed subdivisions for more than four months. The town's inhabitants were in desperate need of medical assistance and food, and among them there were many sick and wounded people, elderly persons, and women and children.

The unrestrained Armenian bandit units, with the help of their foreign patrons, virtually obliterated Khojaly from the face of the earth that night. With the support of numerous heavy combat weapons and materiel belonging to the 366th regiment, the town was completely destroyed and burned down. The unarmed peaceful civilian population was subjected to monstrous butchery. Children, women, elderly people and sick persons were destroyed with unprecedented brutality. At the end of the twentieth century, Armenians had perpetrated yet another historic crime — the Khojaly genocide, which became a black stain on the conscience of civilized mankind. The purpose of this monstrous act was to destroy the town's entire population. Nevertheless, some of the inhabitants of Khojaly, by sheer chance, remained alive in order to bear witness for history.

As a result of this latest case of genocide, the Khojaly genocide, perpetrated by Armenians against the Azerbaijani people, 613 persons were murdered and 1,275 from among the peaceful inhabitants were taken hostage. To this day, the fate of 150 of them is unknown. As a result of the tragedy, more than 1,000 peaceful inhabitants, who received bullet wounds of varying degrees of severity, became invalids; 106 women, 83 small children, and 70 elderly persons were killed. Seventy-six of those who became invalids were boys and girls who had not yet come of age.

As a result of this military and political crime, eight families were completely destroyed, 25 children lost both parents, and 130 children lost one parent. Fifty-six persons were burned alive with particular cruelty and brutality, they were scalped, their heads were severed, and their eyes thrust out, and the stomachs of pregnant women were stabbed repeatedly with bayonets.

It is difficult to imagine that such cruelty and acts of brutality perpetrated by man, which have no parallel in history, occurred at the end of the twentieth century, before the eyes of the entire world! However, the world must know: the perpetrators of this historic crime, directed not only against the Azerbaijanis, but also against all civilized mankind, are the "long-suffering Armenians".

For the past 10 years, we the people of Khojaly, living as refugees with pain and at the same time great hope in our hearts, appeal to all peace-loving peoples on earth and to international organizations. We ask you not to remain indifferent and unconcerned about the suffering caused to us and our grief as a result of Armenian armed aggression. We do not believe that such authoritative international organizations like the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and peace-loving countries are unable to force such an aggressive State like Armenia, which is imposing its will on the international community, to observe justice and order!

We are certain that the world community will condemn the military aggression by the Armenian State against Azerbaijan and will assist in ensuring the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, bringing about the return of more than a million refugees to their homes, and achieving a peaceful settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict in the context of historic political justice.

We, the people of Khojaly, experienced profound sorrow upon learning of the monstrous terrorist attack that led to the mass destruction of thousands of innocent people in the United States of America on 11 September 2001. This terrible tragedy brought us back to the events that took place a decade earlier. Ten years ago, we, the people of Khojaly, and tens of thousands of Azerbaijanis personally experienced such terrible grief, and today we are living in tents, train carriages, dugouts, and cellars, sharing the bitter fate of refugees.

We, the witnesses of the Khojaly genocide, who by a miracle remained alive, strongly condemn the terrorist acts of 11 September and, with great hope, once again appeal to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as well as all progressive world public opinion and once more draw their attention to the need for a political and legal assessment of the Khojaly genocide as well.

We, the people of Khojaly, who endured one of the most terrible tragedies of the twentieth century, call upon the peoples of the world to undertake a joint struggle for peace and security. We sound the alarm and call upon all international organizations and peace-loving, authoritative States in the world to mobilize all forces to eliminate the hotbeds of war throughout the world and to struggle for a free, happy human society, living in conditions of peace and tranquillity and prospering with every new day!

This appeal was adopted at a meeting of the refugees of the Khojaly district

20 February 2002

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Security Council

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Letter dated 5 March 2002 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1395 (2002) of 27 February 2002 concerning Liberia, in paragraph 3 of which the Council decided to re-establish the Panel of Experts on Liberia appointed pursuant to paragraph 19 of resolution 1343 (2001) for a further period of five weeks, commencing no later than 11 March 2002.

The Panel will conduct a follow-up assessment mission to Liberia and neighbouring countries, in order to investigate and compile a brief independent audit of the compliance by the Government of Liberia with paragraph 2 and of any violations of paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of resolution 1343 (2001) and to report to the Council through the Committee established by paragraph 14 of resolution 1343 (2001). In paragraph 5 of resolution 1395 (2002), the Council requested that I appoint, in consultation with the Committee established by paragraph 14 of resolution 1343 (2001), no more than five experts to serve on the Panel.

Accordingly, I wish to inform you that, taking into account the requirements stated in resolution 1395 (2002), including that I draw, as much as possible and as appropriate, on the expertise of the members of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001), I have appointed the following four experts:

1. Mr. Atabou Bodian (Senegal, expert from the International Civil Aviation Organization)
2. Mr. Johan Peleman (Belgium, expert on arms and transportation)
3. Mr. Harjit Singh Sandhu (India, expert from Interpol)
4. Mr. Alex Vines (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, expert on diamonds).

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 42
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 5 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 19 February 2002 refuting the allegations and fabrications contained in Israel's letter of 17 January 2002 (A/56/778-S/2002/79), I have the honour to call your attention to the following:

1. On 9 February 2002 Italy's ambassador was asked about his country's attitude to Israel's media war against Lebanon. He replied:

> "I believe it to be a succession of rumours that Israel is circulating about Lebanon. One of these rumours is clearly risible, namely the assertion that the Bekaa valley is serving as a base for extremists arriving from the al-Qa'idah organization, as also is Israel's claim that the Bekaa contains camps and harbours fundamentalists coming from Afghanistan or other places. I say this is laughable, because the Bekaa is not like Baluchistan or Afghanistan. The Bekaa is a small place where everyone, including me, knows everything. I could act as a guide and take people into the Bekaa to see where members of al-Qa'idah could hide. It is impossible to hide in the Bekaa. It is actually funny to hear such things said. ... There is a battle going on in the world. These are empty words that have been published in a few newspapers without people knowing what they are talking about. The situation in the Bekaa is perfectly clear."

2. On 8 February 2002 the Washington correspondent of the Lebanese newspaper *Al-Safir* reported that United States government sources had denied that there was any truth to the claims of Israeli officials that elements of al-Qa'idah, which was founded by Usama bin Laden, had arrived in Lebanon from Afghanistan. They had also stated that the assertion of Israeli Minister for Foreign Affairs Shimon Peres that elements of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard had been deployed in Lebanese territory was groundless.

Official sources have said that Israel's allegations were made in the context of its political and media campaign to mobilize American and international support against Iran and Hizb Allah, a campaign that has benefited greatly from the political

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and moral momentum created by the charges made by President George W. Bush concerning what he termed the danger from the countries of the "axis of evil" consisting of Iran, Iraq and North Korea.

Highly placed American sources have said that they do not exclude the possibility that there have been attempts by al-Qa'idah elements fleeing Afghanistan after the recent collapse of the Taliban regime to return to their countries of origin, especially those still in possession of legal documentation. They add:

> "There have perhaps been Lebanese nationals among them, but we do not know that for sure. There can be no doubt, however, that there has been no appreciable organized return of al-Qa'idah elements to Lebanon".

The same sources spoke with evident confidence of the absence of any elements of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard in Lebanon. They stated that there was absolutely no truth in the allegations made, and they hastened to say that it would be relatively easy to verify that fact. The American sources explained the reluctance of Secretary of State Colin L. Powell to deny the allegations directly by saying that he does not wish to create an open crisis with Israel, given that such a public denial would have the appearance of accusing the Israelis of lying.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative